RESTRICTED CIRCULATION

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AGRICULTURAL MEMORANDUM NO 776

Sheep PGE Forecasting - long range

L P Smith

The correlation between the return date the previous autumn, as calculated in Ag Mem 775, and the disease rating the following year is 0.6942, leading to a long-range forecast formula, usable by the start of the year, of

$$\text{Rating} = 0.56\ \text{RD} + 0.7$$

The results were, including 5 independent test years:-

Forecast	Actual	Correct	Near Miss	Wrong
Less than 2	3, 1, 1,	2	1	0
2 - 4	1, 7, 1, 5, 2, 5,	1	4	1
4 - 6	6, 8, 3, 5, 2, 1, 3, 4, 6	4	3	2
Over 6	6, 7, 5	2	1	0
		9	9	3

Considering that this forecast can be made about 8 months in advance, the results are very satisfactory.

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be referred to the author.

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Bracknell

January 1976